

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BANGKO 17973 230954Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 /084 W  
-----027383 231216Z /64  
R 230910Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6675  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 17973

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SHUM SOCI CB  
SUBJECT: REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

REF: A) STATE 157953 B) BANGKOK 17849

1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING IS INTERVIEW WITH CAMBODIAN REFUGEE,  
SOURCE G. END SUMMARY

2. SOURCE G, 31, FROM KOH KONG PROVINCE, WAS A FARMER BEFORE  
AND AFTER THE KHMER ROUGE TAKEOVER. HE ARRIVED IN THAILAND  
IN JANUARY, 1978. HIS ACCOUNT FOLLOWS:

3. QTE CONDITIONS OF LIFE IN DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA. FROM  
1975 TO 1978, WE RECEIVED 300 GRAMS OF RICE PER DAY FOR THREE  
PERSONS. THIS WAS SERIOUSLY INSUFFICIENT. ONCE A WEEK, WE  
RECEIVED A LITTLE FISH AND VEGETABLES. THE PEOPLE ARE SICK  
AND WEAK FROM HUNGER AND DISEASE AND CAN HARDLY WORK.  
DYSENTERY, MALARIA AND BERIBERI ARE VERY COMMON.

4. QTE WE WORKED FROM 0400 TO 1100, 1300 TO 1800 AND AGAIN  
FROM 1900 TO 2200. IF YOU ARE TIRED, IT IS TOO BAD. YOU  
STILL MUST WORK. IF YOU DO NOT GO TO WORK, YOU  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BANGKO 17973 230954Z

GET ONLY HALF A BOWL OF PORRIDGE. THE SECOND OR THIRD  
TIME YOU DO NOT GO TO WORK, YOU ARE KILLED. FOR OTHER  
OFFENSES, FIGHTING, KILLING, ETC., IT DEPENDS ON THE  
SERIOUSNESS. YOU MAY BE REPREMANDED ONCE, THEN KILLED.

5. QTE SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION AND DISCIPLINE. MY  
VILLAGE HAD 2,000 PERSONS. IT WAS HEADED BY A VILLAGE

CHIEF. OCCASIONALLY, I SAW THREE OR FOUR SOLDIERS PASS THROUGH THE VILLAGE. THERE WERE NO OTHER CADRES AND RECENTLY THERE WERE NO SPIES (SCHLOP). DESPITE THE FEW KHMER ROUGE AROUND, NO ONE DARES REVOLT. THERE IS NO OUTSIDE SUPPORT, SO IT IS IMPOSSIBLE. FRIENDS SPEAK SECRETLY OF THE SITUATION, BUT IF YOU ARE OVERHEARD, YOU ARE KILLED.

6. QTE AT THE MEETINGS HELD EVERY TEN DAYS, THE VILLAGE CHIEF ONLY SAYS, "YOU MUST WORK HARDER." THERE IS NOTHING ELSE. NO NEWS, ONLY, "YOU MUST WORK." WE COULD NOT CRITICIZE OR MAKE SUGGESTIONS. NO ONE DARES FOR FEAR OF BEING KILLED. NO ONE EVEN DARES BRING UP A PROBLEM WITH THE KHMER ROUGE.

7. QTE EXECUTIONS. THE KHMER ROUGE HAVE KILLED SOLDIERS, POLICE, AND OFFICIALS OF THE FORMER REGIME, STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND EVEN BUSINESS PEOPLE. THIS BEGAN IN 1975 AND HAS CONTINUED. IT HAS INTENSIFIED RECENTLY, AS THE REGIME IS TRYING TO ROOT OUT ALL THOSE TAINTED BY THE FORMER REGIME.

8. QTE I HAVE NOT SEEN ACTUAL KILLINGS, BUT I REGULARLY SAW PEOPLE TIED UP AND LED AWAY. THEY DISAPPEARED AND WE ALL BELIEVED THAT THEY WERE KILLED. OF A FORMER POPULATION IN MY VILLAGE OF 2,000, I ESTIMATE THAT 300 FORMER SOLDIERS WERE KILLED AND MORE THAN 100 CHILDREN DIED OF STARVATION. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BANGKO 17973 230954Z

ABOUT 1,000 REMAIN OF THE 2,000.

9. QTE SEVEN MEMBERS OF MY FAMILY WERE KILLED BY THE KHMER ROUGE, TWO BROTHERS-IN-LAW AND FIVE COUSINS. THE BROTHERS-IN-LAW WERE FORMER OFFICIALS, THE FIVE COUSINS, FOUR OF WHOM WERE MALES, WERE YOUNG MEMBERS OF THE MOBILE WORK GROUPS. THEY WORKED HARD BUT OCCASIONALLY WOULD REST AND TALK. THE KHMER ROUGE SPIES (SCHLOP) OVERHEARD THEM. I SAW THEM TIED UP AND TAKEN AWAY. AFTER THAT, THEY "DISAPPEARED."

10. QTE HUMAN, CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS. YOU CANNOT SAY THAT THERE IS A SYSTEM OF JUSTICE IN CAMBODIA. THERE ARE NO HUMAN RIGHTS. THERE ARE NO COURTS. WE HAD NO IDEA ABOUT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. YOU CAN ONLY PRAY TO BUDDHA. END QTE  
O'DONOHUE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, HUMAN RIGHTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BANGKO17973  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DECONTROLLED PER 7/7/78 MEMO FROM EA/VLC - JUDITH R. JOHNSON  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780262-0249  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780628/aaaaaxob.tel  
**Line Count:** 111  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 48081b83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 157953, 78 BANGKOK 17849  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 mar 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2234145  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA  
**TAGS:** SHUM, SOCI, CB, TH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/48081b83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014